



Linda McCulloch MONTANA SECRETARY OF STATE

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A citizen proposed ballot issue can only appear on the 2016 general election ballot once the proposed language has fulfilled three requirements. First, the language must be submitted to Montana's Legislative Services Division. Second, the Montana Attorney General must conduct a legal review. Finally, after the review process is complete, and the sponsor has been notified by the Secretary of State of the approval or rejection of the ballot issue, the sponsor must collect sufficient verified signatures from qualified voters in Montana. *To propose a ballot issue, see detailed information at http://sos.mt.gov/Elections/Ballot_Issues.*

Initiative or referendum for the ballot - Signatures must be obtained from 5 percent of the total number of qualified voters in Montana (based on the number of votes cast for the office of governor in the last general election), including 5 percent of the voters in each of 34 legislative house districts.

Constitutional amendment by initiative - Signatures must be obtained from 10 percent of the total number of qualified voters in Montana (based on the number of votes cast for the office of governor in the last general election), including 10 percent of the voters in each of 40 legislative house districts.

If you observe and have concerns about questionable signature gathering, you may file a [complaint](#) with the Secretary of State, who will forward each complaint to the appropriate county official. See signature gathering information at http://sos.mt.gov/Elections/Ballot_Issues/index.asp.

The 2016 Voter Information Pamphlet (VIP) will be available in the fall of 2016.

Please Note: *Ballot issue numbers listed below are assigned by the order in which they were received at the Office of the Montana Secretary of State. They do not reflect a ranking or how the initiative would be numbered if it were placed on the ballot.*

The following are citizen proposals for statewide ballot initiatives for the November 8, 2016, general election ballot that have been submitted to the Secretary of State.

All Submitted Ballot Issues

Qualified for Ballot

Ballot Issue #12 CI-116

Subject: Ensure that crime victims' rights and interests are respected and protected by law.

Contact Person: Charles Denowh

Sponsor: Charles Denowh

Type: Constitutional initiative

Received by SOS: August 19, 2015

Status: Qualified for general election ballot as of May 6, 2016.

Signatures received and tallied by SOS: 52,321 of 48,349 total signatures needed; qualified in 54 of 40 legislative districts needed.

Approved for Signature Gathering

Legal Sufficiency Review by Attorney General

Waiting for Sponsor Response

Review by Legislative Services

Withdrawn

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All Submitted Ballot Issues

Qualified for Ballot

Approved for Signature Gathering

Ballot Issue #6 ~~1-176~~

Subject: Require that drugs that are illegal under federal law are illegal under Montana law.

Contact Person: Steve Zabawa

Sponsor: Steve Zabawa

Type: Statutory initiative

Received by SOS: June 17, 2015

Status: Petition has been approved for signature gathering as of October 5, 2015.

Next Step: Sponsor may submit signatures to county election offices.

Signatures received and tallied by SOS: 7,503 of 24,175 total signatures needed; qualified in 2 of 34 legislative districts needed.

Ballot Issue #9 I-175

Subject: Allow any school employee, with a valid permit, to possess and carry a concealed handgun in a school.

Contact Person: Chet Billi

Sponsor: Chet Billi

Type: Statutory initiative

Received by SOS: July 8, 2015

Status: Petition has been approved for signature gathering as of August 28, 2015.

Next Step: Sponsor may submit signatures to county election offices.

Signatures received and tallied by SOS: 21 of 24,175 total signatures needed; qualified in 0 of 34 legislative districts needed.

Ballot Issue #10 CI-115

Subject: Permit adults to purchase, consume, or possess marijuana.

Contact Person: Anthony Varriano

Sponsor: Anthony Varriano

Type: Constitutional initiative

Received by SOS: August 11, 2015

Status: Petition has been approved for signature gathering as of October 5, 2015.

Next Step: Sponsor may submit signatures to county election offices.

Signatures received and tallied by SOS: 1,153 of 48,349 total signatures needed; qualified in 0 of 40 legislative districts needed.

Ballot Issue #13 I-177

Subject: Restrict the use of traps and snares for animals on any public lands within Montana.

Contact Person: Brian Miller

Sponsor: Timothy Provow

Type: Statutory initiative

Received by SOS: August 20, 2015

Status: Petition has been approved for signature gathering as of October 6, 2015.

Next Step: Sponsor may submit signatures to county election offices.

Signatures received and tallied by SOS: 9,545 of 24,175 total signatures needed; qualified in 12 of 34 legislative districts needed.

Ballot Issue #14 I-178

Subject: Legalize recreational sales of marijuana to adults twenty-one years of age and older.

Contact Person: Anthony Varriano

Sponsor: Anthony Varriano

Type: Statutory initiative

Received by SOS: October 8, 2015

Status: Petition has been approved for signature gathering as of December 7, 2015.

Next Step: Sponsor may submit signatures to county election offices.

Signatures received and tallied by SOS: 567 of 24,175 total signatures needed; qualified in 0 of 34 legislative districts needed.

Ballot Issue #16 I-179

Subject: License community veteran EMTs to provide expanded medical care for individuals, including but not limited to veterans.

Contact Person: Ed Lesofski

Sponsor: Ed Lesofski

Type: Statutory initiative

Received by SOS: October 26, 2015

Status: Petition has been approved for signature gathering as of December 29, 2015.

Next Step: Sponsor may submit signatures to county election offices.

Signatures received and tallied by SOS: 0 of 24,175 total signatures needed; qualified in 0 of 34 legislative districts needed.

Ballot Issue #19 ~~I-180~~

Subject: Require investor-owned utilities to supply incrementally higher percentages of their electricity from renewable energy sources, and establish a displaced fossil-fuel workers program and a fossil-fuel pensioner program..

Contact Person: Russ Doty

Sponsor: John Soderberg

Type: Statutory initiative

Received by SOS: November 16, 2015

Status: Petition has been approved for signature gathering as of January 20, 2015.

Next Step: Sponsor may submit signatures to county election offices.

Signatures received and tallied by SOS: 1,320 of 24,175 total signatures needed; qualified in 0 of 34 legislative districts needed.

Ballot Issue #23 ~~I-181~~

Subject: Promote research into developing therapies and cures for brain diseases and injuries.

Contact Person: Randy Gray

Sponsor: Montanans for Research and Cures

Type: Statutory initiative

Received by SOS: February 2, 2016

Status: Petition has been approved for signature gathering as of April 7, 2016.

Next Step: Sponsor may submit signatures to county election offices.

Signatures received and tallied by SOS: 0 of 24,175 total signatures needed; qualified in 0 of 34 legislative districts needed.

Ballot Issue #24 ~~I-182~~

Subject: Expand access to medical marijuana.

Contact Person: Kate Cholewa

Sponsor: Montanans Cannabis Industry Association

Type: Statutory initiative

Received by SOS: February 29, 2016

Status: Petition has been approved for signature gathering as of April 15, 2016.

Next Step: Sponsor may submit signatures to county election offices.

Signatures received and tallied by SOS: 0 of 24,175 total signatures needed; qualified in 0 of 34 legislative districts needed.

Legal Sufficiency Review by Attorney General

Waiting for Sponsor Response

Review by Legislative Services

Withdrawn

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